

FACT SHEET

Gary D. Preszler, Commissioner

EDUCATION FUNDING

When the federal government granted statehood in the 1800s, it also gave land (usually Sections 16 & 36) to each newly-developed state to ensure that the financial needs of education did not get neglected. Each state created a governing body to manage those assets for education. In North Dakota, that body is the Board of University of School Lands, and the administering agency is the State Land Department.

The chart below shows the distributions made to the Permanent Trust Beneficiaries for the 2-year period ending June 30, 2009. Please note, our agency contributed almost \$66.8 million to the common schools trust fund (ND public school system – grades K-12); which is \$340.41/student/year. The revenue generated from surface rents, investment income, and oil and gas lease rentals, less a small percentage to operate our agency (salaries, mileage, telephones, paper clips, etc.) are listed below. The State Land Department is not a tax funded agency.

2007-2009 Income Distributions	
<u>Beneficiary</u>	<u>Amount Distributed</u>
Common Schools (K-12)	\$66,800,000
North Dakota State University	\$1,070,000
University of North Dakota	\$604,000
Industrial School	\$378,000
School for the Deaf	\$310,000
Valley City State University	\$226,000
School of Mines	\$370,000
School of Science	\$338,000
State Hospital	\$390,000
Ellendale (split to other funds)	\$168,000
North Dakota Veterans Home	\$214,000
School for the Blind	\$176,000
Mayville State University	<u>\$156,000</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$71,200,000</u>

For more information regarding this topic, contact Mike Brand at mbrand@nd.gov or call (701) 328-2800.